



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND WATER  
DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, JUSTICE,  
SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES  
AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-1602

□ 1130 LONGWORTH HOB  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-3536

□ GENERAL O.O. HOWARD HOUSE  
750 ANDERSON STREET, SUITE B  
VANCOUVER, WA 98661  
(360) 695-6292

WWW.JHB.HOUSE.GOV

March 7, 2018

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

I am writing to you in response to your announced intention to impose 25 percent tariffs on all imported steel. As a Member of Congress from a state in which the steel company Steelscape has significant operations, I am concerned about the impact global duties will have on communities and workers. I respectfully urge you exclude exporters vital to the economy, particularly key allies such as Australia, and focus on the twelve countries specifically outlined in your initial report. As you know, Secretary of Defense Mattis also noted that he supports targeted tariffs as being more advantageous than a global quota or tariff.

Despite its affiliation with a domestic steel manufacturing company in Ohio, Steelscape is one of several West Coast steel producers that rely on imports from the Pacific Rim because of the natural trade barriers of the Rocky Mountains. The transportation costs of steel shipped by rail from the Midwest to the West Coast costs an average of \$65 a ton more than steel arriving by ship from Australia and Japan. Specifically, Steelscape imports hot-rolled steel from Australia through the Ports of Kalama and Vancouver in Washington state.

As a supplier of metallic-coated and pre-painted steel products that are used in residential and commercial buildings, Steelscape plays an important role in my state as an employer of hundreds of my constituents. The company also serves as a supplier to thousands of downstream small businesses that rely on its technologically-advanced products. In addition, steel imported through Washington state's Ports of Kalama and Vancouver support family-wage maritime and transportation jobs, including longshore workers, stevedores, truck drivers, rail workers, and U.S. logistics support workers. According to some estimates, West Coast ports support nine million U.S. jobs and have an economic impact of more than a trillion dollars annually.

My interest is in protecting well-paying jobs in an area of my state with unemployment higher than the national average. I am confident that it is possible to punish the bad actors responsible for flooding U.S. markets with dumped steel without taking action that results in harm to families, schools, and communities. Accordingly, I ask you to consider the unique situation of companies

like Steelscape that depend on imported steel to survive as American steel producers, and urge you to focus on the bad actors specifically outlined in Secretary Ross's report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jaime Herrera Beutler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jaime" being the most prominent.

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Jaime Herrera Beutler  
Member of Congress